

European Posture Changes

- **Background**

- Posture changes in Europe reflect the strategic guidance issued by the Department in January, and tough decisions on force structure made as we drawdown forces from the Army.
- These changes demonstrate an evolution of our posture at an inflection point as we have concluded our mission in Iraq, and are responsibly transitioning in Afghanistan, are incorporating the valuable lessons learned by NATO during operations in Afghanistan and Libya, and are transforming our capabilities to meet the challenges of the shifting strategic landscape.
- We place a premium on NATO – one of our most important security alliances – and sustaining interoperability with our Allies, the key to generating coalition forces.

- **Expected Actions**

- Inactivate the 170th Heavy Brigade (BDE) (Baumholder, Germany) in early FY 2013
 - ~3,850 Soldiers, currently redeploying from Afghanistan to Germany
 - Soldiers and families will begin to move in summer 2012
- Inactivate the V Corps Headquarters (Wiesbaden, Germany) in summer FY 2013
 - ~750 Soldiers, deploying to Afghanistan summer 2012
 - Personnel will reunite with their families and receive other assignments in Wiesbaden or elsewhere
- Relocate elements of the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team (ABCT) (units from Bamberg and Schweinfurt, Germany, to Vicenza, Italy) through FY 2013
 - Previously planned consolidation moves 1600 Soldiers and associated families to Italy
 - Continues planned consolidation of units; Bamberg and Schweinfurt close by FY 2015 (closures decided/announced in last Administration)
 - Employment effect on local German population: minus ~500 people
- Inactivate the 81st Fighter Squadron (A-10) (Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany) in FY 2013
 - ~525 Airmen
 - U.S. Air Force will reassign personnel based on the needs of the Service
- Inactivate the 603rd Air Control Squadron (Aviano Air Base, Italy) in FY 2013
 - ~336 Airmen
 - No anticipated effect on local nationals
- Inactivate the 172nd Heavy BDE (Grafenwoehr) in early FY 2014
 - ~ 3,850 Soldiers, currently in Afghanistan and will redeploy summer 2012 to Germany
 - Most Soldiers and families will move in summer 2013, likely to U.S. locations; some will be reassigned within Europe
- Complete U.S. Army Europe (USAREUR) installation consolidation by FY 2015
 - Previous Administration decided/announced consolidation of USAREUR Headquarters to Wiesbaden
 - Employment effect on local population: ~250 personnel at Heidelberg (Heidelberg closes); Schweinfurt and Bamberg closures noted above
- Inactivate approximately 2,500 Army enabler forces from FY 2013 to FY 2017
 - The Army will decide later this year which enabler units will inactivate
 - Soldiers will be notified as far in advance as practical, and will conduct routine moves as units inactivate
 - The Army and USAREUR will conduct a detailed analysis of implications once the units are identified